has, *inter-alia*, drawn attention to the presence of illegal Bangladeshi immigrants in India and its related security implications.

Given India's long and porous border with Bangladesh, illegal migration from Bangladesh is a continuing problem and one which poses security concerns. The Government is seized of this problem and has undertaken a range of measures to detect and deport illegally staying Bangladeshi nationals. This is an ongoing process.

(c) The detection and deportation of illegally staying Bangladeshi national is done in close coordination with the State Governments and Union Territories, including Rajasthan. The interaction with States/UTs is inclusive of assessments, security concerns, procedural aspects etc.

(d) Central Government is vested with the powers to deport a foreign national under section 3(2)(c) of the Foreigners Act, 1946. These powers to identify and deport illegally staying foreign nationals have also been delegated to the State Governments/UT Administrations. The procedure for the detection and deportation of illegal Bangladeshi immigrants has also been set out and circulated to State Governments/UT Administrations who are implementing the same on a continuous basis.

Initiatives taken to prevent/curb illegal immigration from Bangladesh also include:-

(i) Construction of border roads, border fencing and flood lighting.

(ii) Round the clock surveillance of the borders by Border Security Force (BSF) patrols (both land and riverine).

(iii) Setting up of 1185 border outposts of which 802 outposts have already been established.

(iv) Introduction of modern surveillance equipments including night vision devices.

(v) Developing arrangements with the Government of Bangladesh to undertake coordinated management of borders, especially where fencing is incomplete of not feasible.

Decline in index of industrial production

*126. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a negative growth of 3.3 per cent in intermediate goods in September compared with 10 per cent in the corresponding period last year pulled down growth in the index of industrial production to 4.8 per cent in September, 2008 as against 7 per cent in the same month last year;

(b) if so, what were the main reasons and what are the steps being considered in this regard;

(c) whether the industry has urged Union Government to focus on small and medium entrepreneurs to push up the industrial production; and

(d) if so, what are the other concrete measures Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (d) The industrial growth measured in terms of Index of Industrial Production (IIP) released by Central Statistical Organization (CSO) for the month of September, 2007 and September, 2008, and also for the first six months (April-September) 2008-09 and corresponding period of the previous year is given below:

(In per cent)

Sector	Weight	September 2007	September 2008	2007-08 (Apr-Sep)	2008-09 Apr-Sep)
Basic Goods	35.6	6.5	4.6	9.3	3.7
Capital Goods	9.3	20.9	18.8	20.2	10.6
Intermediate Good	26.5	10.1	(-)3.3	9.9	0.1
Consumer Goods	28.7	(-)0.2	5.6	5.5	7.7
Overall	100.0	7.0	4.8	9.5	4.9

The intermediate goods are finished and semi finished goods which are used as inputs by the user industry for production of final finished product. The growth recorded by intermediate goods is based on the demand by the user downstream industries.

The Government regularly interacts with the Industry Associations in order to promote broad based and sustained industrial growth including the promotion of small and medium enterprises.

A number of steps have been announced by the Government on 7th December to stimulate demand in the economy:

- **Reduction in Cenvat/Excise duty** : As an immediate measure to encourage additional spending, an across-the-board cut of 4% in the ad valorem except petroleum.
- **Measures to Support Exports** : Several measures have been taken to support exporters such as:
  - — Interest subvention of 2% for pre and post shipment export credit for labour intensive industries such as textiles, handlooms, handicrafts, leather, Gems and jewellery, marine products and Small and Medium Enterprise sector.
  - — Additional funds of Rs. 1100 crore to ensure full refund of Terminal Excise duty/Central Sales Tax.

— An additional allocation for export incentive schemes of Rs. 350 crore.

— Government back-up guarantee to Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) to the extent of Rs.350 crore to enable it to provide guarantees for exports to difficult markets/products.

— Refund of service tax to exporters on foreign agent commissions of upto 10 percent of Freight On Board (FOB) value of exports.

- **Housing** : Refinance facility of Rs. 4000 crore for the National Housing Bank by RBI.
- **Micro Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) Sector** : Refinance facility of Rs. 7000 crore for Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to support MSMEs.
- **Textiles** : An additional allocation of Rs. 1400 crore to clear the entire backlog in Technology Upgradation Fund (TUF) Scheme.
- **Others** : (a) Government departments allowed to replace government vehicles within the allowed budget, in relaxation of extant economy instructions. (b) Elimination of Import Duty on Naphtha for use in the power sector. (c) Elimination of export duty on iron ore fines and reduction of duty to 5% for lumps.

In addition, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has recently taken a number of steps to reduce the cost of credit and improve liquidity for industry by reducing Repo rate, Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR), Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR).

Award money for bravery in different States

*127. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that varying rewards for identical honours are creating tension and frustration within the armed forces and need to be examined by his Ministry in the interest of soldiers;

(b) whether Government has so far consulted State Governments to standardise cash grants given to gallantry award winners; and

(c) if so, whether Government has laid down the minimum cash grant to be given to gallantry awardees by the State or left it to the choice of States concerned?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) Gallantry awards are given by the Central Government and the awardees are paid at uniform rates by the Government of India. However, in addition, various State Governments/Union Territory Administrations also provide certain benefits to the awardees, which very from state to state. Payment of grants to the awardees by various states is a matter for the respective State Governments to decide depending upon varying factors like their financial resources, etc., It is therefore, not possible for the Central Government to ensure that all the states extend these benefits to the awardees at uniform rates.